ymric literature

At the historic town of Brecon, in South Wales, one of the greatest choral competitions of the decade came off re-Some of the most famous choirs of Gwalla participated in the contest. The names of the noted choirs are included in the adjudication of Joseph Bennett,of the Royal Academy of Music, London. The Builth choir, which won at the Llandudno national eisteddfod last year, won in this con-test, which now places the famous choir at the head of the choirs now in

active practice in Old Gwalia.

The Newport choir at a recent contest defeated Merthyr, which was hith-erto looked upon as the most invulner-able, and Builth, in two successive contests closely following each other, defeated both Merthyr and Newport, which, by the way, with the exception of Cardiff, are the two largest cities in Wales, while Builth is only a very small rural village in Breconshire.

The adjudication will, no doubt be of great interest to the Bry-thonian of our city and vicinity. The choirs sang in the following order; (1) Trecastle United choir (conductor, Mr. Davies); (2) Newport (Mon.) Temperance Choral society (conductor, Mr. G. H. Edmunds); (3) Builth Choral Society (conductor, Mr. A. P. Morgan); (4) Morriston Glee party (conductor, Mr. Penfro Rowlands); (5) Brecon Philharmonic society (conductor, Mr. R. T.

Joseph Bennett, who delivered the adjudication, said his colleagues and were in perfect accord in stating that the singing had been far above that ordinarily heard. Dealing minute-ly with the contest,he said Trecastle choir had exhibited defects in both pieces, their intonation being faulty in places, and now and again there was a hesitency about their reading. It had been agreed to fix the maximum at 20 marks in each piece, and Trecastle had been given 14 in each. Morriston's rendering of the first piece was very fine indeed, though a little light and shade would improve it.

Eighteen marks were awarded them for the first piece, but they lost all chance of success by losing tune in the second, so that they only secured 12 marks for that. So magnificiently did Brecon sing their first piece that it was decided to give them the full marks. He had heard the best choirs in this country, Germany, France and Italy, and was surprised to find that from such a small town a choir could be drawn; and he said emphatically that it was as good as, if not better than, any he had heard. Brecon, however, failed somewhat with the difficult piece of Bach's, there being a little raggedness, and in one place a faulty attack. Of Newport's singing, his notes said, "Fine voices and admirable quality, and well balanced power on the

The difficult religious piece was the triumph of this choir, their reading being excellent, and it was music which demanded very great perceptive qualities and no less executive skill. They had gained 19 marks in the first and 17 in the second piece. The Builth choir made a poor attack in returning to the first subject in the first piece. That was their only blot in the performance, and if that pretty part-song by their townsman were an casy effort, he would say that it promised that Hadley Watkins would reflect infinite credit upon Brecon. The second piece as sung by Builth was a splendid performance, one which he should certainly remember, whether the rest of the auditors dld or not. They had interpreted the music of Sebastian Bach-who had left his work unmarked, leaving interpretation to his performers—as he and his fellow-adjudicutor would have read it, and, as he believed, the great Bach himself would have had it performed. Builth had been allotted 39 marks out of the total of 40, and had gained the full award for their second piece. This decision was received with cheers. The order of merit is-Builth, 39 marks; Newport, 36; Brecon, 36; Morriston, 30; Trecastle, 28.

POEM NOTES.

B. F. Lewis, one of the associate editors of Y Drych, who was recently stricken with a paralytic stroke, died on Fhursday of last week. He was one of the best known Welshmen in the country, and was a gentleman of amiable Christian traits, and although old in the faith sand in years he was revertiblesses. traits, and although old in the faith and in years, he was nevertheless remarkably liberal in his Christian views. He would have been a much stronger Welsh writer had he followed it up continually from the time he had mastered it, but opportunities on the English press being more favorable, he relinquished the pen of his younger years, and not until a f5w years ago, when he became associate editor of Y Drych, did he take it up again. He was a Welshman to the core, and loved intensely the country of his birth and boyhood and her beautiful old language. Mr. Lewis did some excellent work on the Utica Herald for many years, and was the foreman of its meyears, and was the foreman of its me-chanical department when Hon. Ellis H. Roberts was its editor and proprietor. He was a prominent member of the grand lodge of Ivorites, and at one time was one of the leading members of the Interna tional Typographical union of America and Canada.

Let us remind those singers of the West Side who intend competing for the chief prizes at the Alientown elsteddfod, that they will meet in that competition men and women of refinement and spiendid musical accomplishments. The town German society of singers is an old organization of accomplished singers, with a professional gentleman of culture and experience at the head. They have given a series of concerts for many years every winter of the great masters' works, and they have demonstrated on these oc-casions ability of a very superior order, and no "scrap" choir can defeat them. We hope the West Side singers will con-sider the matter very seriously. With the best material and an intelligent and ca-pable leader, the prize can be won, and not otherwise. Scranton singers cannot very well afford to lose and be defeated by a choir not known to the world of compe tition. We protest against a "scrap choir," as some wish to call it, Go to Allentown well prepared and win.

It does our heart good when we hear so many young men in and around Scranton speak the good old mother tongue with such correctness and fluency, and such correctness and fluency, and what is more surprising is, that the most of them are born in this country and their parents before them, while the majority of those of recent importation are utterly unable to speak and read the lan guage of their country. We have a dozen young men on the West Side, with little practice, who would soon become mas-ters in the magnificent accomplishment of transcribing thoughts in the graceful and expressive language of the old Welsh warriors of the past.

GENERAL NOTES.

From Home

MOLAWD DYFRI.

GAN J. COURIER MORRIS.

Gwir feirddion hoff hen Ddyfri fawr, O awr i awr gydfolant; Cilgwynog goeth, Athenydd Vardd, Mor hardd eu cerdd pan ganant Am Dywi lwys a'i merched mwyn, A'r wyn sydd ar ei glanau; Mor syw eu swyn a'r seiniau cain Geir o "Bont Chain" a'i thyrau.

Yn nghysgod hon bu Tom y Saer Yn daer am galon Liza, Ond daeth y dydd pan gwell oedd Ann-Na'r wiwlan o Lwynisa; Ar ol cael Ann daeth Tom yn ddyn, Ac 'nun o " Gywion Bowddwr,' A cherddor mawr a bardd i'r carn, Mae'n ddar = o fardd-bryddestwr.

Hip, hip hwre, i fardd mor gain, Nid main yw 'nawr mi w'ranta, Ond gwell ei fyd 'rwy'n siwr ei fod, Mae'n glod i wlad ei "dadta;" Yn ol chwi ddewch ein cyfaill Tom, Nid llom yw gwlad y Cymry; Nid llymru gewch ond hufen llaeth Fu'n faeth i fechgyn Dyfri.



SUSPENSION BRIDGE, LLANDOVERY.

fudraw i'r bont a'i thyrau gwych, Yr ych geir yno'n pori O laswellt blydd gwaun glyd Blaennos, Mor dlos yw hon o stori; Ac yn y parc ger plas y Ton, Mor llon yw'r ddynes heini'-Angharad* hardd o deulu Rees, Pob bys rydd fiwsig ini.

Ei thelyn dlos a'i melus don, Bydd son am rhai'n yn Nghymru; Angyles oedd y ddiwair ferch Llawn serch at fechgyn Dyfri; Ar aden ffydd i'r nefoedd aeth Nid gwaith fydd mwyach iddi, Ond dydd o wyl i ganu mawl Gaiff swynawl ferch Llanddyfri.

Penrock a hefyd Llwynjack fawr, Lie tyr y wawr mor danbaid Ar fryn a dol y ffermydd gwiw-Llaw Duw sydd yn angenrhaid: Yr egin grawn a'r blodau blydd, O ddydd i ddydd gydyfant O natur fyw y nefoedd fawr— Ar lawr 'run ddol gydwenant.

Ar Ianau Bran ceir castell crwn, Cas ydyw hwn i'r Hengist; Ei gaerau cryf a'i gerig certh, Fu'n dwr o nerth i'r athrist; Ar loriau hwn caed olion gwa'd Gwiw feibion mad y Cymry; Hen darian cryf am oesoedd fu I gewri dewrion Dyfri.



THE OLD GASTLE, LLANDOVERY.

Nid pell o'r bont a'i thyrau gwyn, Wrth droed y glyn saif Tingad, Gorweddfan llu o feibion llen, Yn ben yr hen offeiriad: Ei "Ganwyll" glaer o "hymau'r ffydd"— Mor rhydd ei ber syniadau Am fawredd lor, iachawdwr dyn, A Gwynfa hwnt i angau.

Ar ael y bryn mewn hyfryd fan, Cartreflan yr ehedydd, Yn nghudd dan lwyn o flodau hedd Ceir bedd y "Per Ganiedydd;" Yn ol yr awn pe bawn mor iach A'r 'deryn bach penfelyn, Er mwyn cael gwel'd hen balas hardd Y Bardd o Bantycelyn.

Ffarwel gyfeillion boreu oes, Canlynwyr croes yr lesu, Aur wen y nef aroso'n deg Ar ferched chweg hoff Ddyfri. Awelon hyfryd, cludwch draw Yn ddifraw i hoff Gymru, Y cusan mwyn o'r wefus hon

I ferched llon Llanddyfri. afiss Angharad Rees oedd delynores enwog. † Y Ficer Prichard.

That Birmingham journal which published an account by one of its correspondents of Madame Pattl's singing at a re-Brynmer Jones said some brilliant things in the course of his speech on the Weish land bill the other day. Said the member for the Swansea district: "It is in the old farmsteads of Wales that the leaders of the people have been and will be born. Here we have the backbone of

the country, and here are bred some of conceived joke as no wedding had taken

Miss Eleanor Jones of Merthyr, scored heavily in the part she took in the per-formance of Sullivan's "Golden Legend" at Hereford recently. She also sang in the Wagner concerts in London the other week, and was very well received. John Sandbrook, of Dowlais, also distinguished himself in a recent performance in Lon-don of "St. Paul."

It is the opinion of the Medical Press seats on the board. Successors to

that the enterprise displayed by the au-thorities of the University at Cardiff in connection with the founding of a depart-ment of public health for Wales 'is worthy of all praise." "We wish the new scheme every success," adds our contem-porary, "for without doubt it is bound to prove of great service to the principality when it comes to be thoroughly organ-ized."

Tom Price (Merthyr), the perpatetic lecturer of music in the Giamorganshire Intermediate schools, has just published in a very neat form a number of loyal school songs in honor of the queen's diaschool songs in honor of the queen's dia-mond jubilee. They are arranged for equal voices in three part harmony, and are specially adapted for school chidren. They may be sung to either English or Weish words, the Weish version of "God Save the Queen" being by the late Rees Lewis, of Merthyr.

J. L. Thomas, J. P. Gilfach, is the happy possessor of a silver medal about the size of a crownpiece, bearing on one side with a floral scroll, the inscription "Carmar-thenshire Yeomanry Cavalry, raised 1794, disbanded 1827;" and one the other side, in relief, is a waving standard, having on it the Prince of Waley feathers and it the Prince of Wales' feathers, and around it the motto, "Dros ein Brenin a'n Gwlad" ("For my king and country.") The medal belonged to Mr. Thomas' fa-

Professor Keri Evans M. A., sometime professor of philosophy at Bangor Uni-versity, and at the present time an exam-liner in philosophy for Glasgow universty, has been called to the united pastorates of Hawen and Bryngwenith churches, Cardiganshire There is reason to believe, the Celt says, that Mr. Evans will accept the call. He studied at Carmarthen college and Glasgow university, gaining at the latter place the Clarke Fellowship, which is one of the highest honors the aniversity has to bestow.

The 18th of June will be an important day in London Welsh circles. The announce-ment is made that an adaptation of Daniel Owens' popular novel "Rhys Lewis" will Owens' popular novel "Rhys Lewis" will be staged in St. George's hall by the Bala Dramatic company. Between the acts' Eos Dar will sing pentition to the accom-paniment of John Thomas (Pencerdd Gwalla.) Sir Elward Burne-Jones and Lord Aberdare have intimated their intention of being present. The proceeds will go to the fund instituted by the edtor of the London Kelt to enable the London Welsh poor to spend a few days in hen wind on tadau.

A Davies, an engine driver of Swansea, has prepared a somewhat ingenious scheme for the prevision of old age pensions. He would grant every male 10s per week at the ago of sixty and every female 5s per week on attaining a similar age. In order to provide for the payment of these pensions he would utilize one-half of the poor law rate, put a tax on aerated waters and temperance drinks, on primage duties of importers, with the exception of food, a wage-tax of 2d per week on all salaries of 30s per week and upwards, a tax of 5s annually on all bicycles and trivoles and the trivoles and the trivoles. and tricycles, and lastly impose a tax on royaltes of 25 per cent, and 10 per cent, on ground rents,

Is the vocabulary of Welsh surnames ever likely to be augmented? Certain it is that the difficulties and inconveniences attending the present limited one are beng more and more recognized. It is said ing more and more recognized. It is said that the conductor of a recent eisteddfod was placed in a great predicament arising from the sameness in surnames. A telegram was placed in his hands addressed to "Mr. John Jones, Bettwe Eisteddfod, Bettswfawr." The conductor courageously advanced to the vast audience, and in loud tones demanded if the said John Jones was present when to his utter bewilderment some 7.000 persons rose. utter bewilderment some 7,000 persons rose from their seats to claim the message! That he collapsed goes without saying

The following remarkable story has for itself the recommendation of being true. It is the practice of a Carmarthenshire postman to deposit the letters belonging to a certain farmhouse in an improvised letter box near the roadside. One morning after he had dropped in the letters he noticed to his utter amazement that they were promptly thrown out. He trembling-ly replaced them, but they were ejected for the second time with the same d's patch. Bent on solving the mystery, he proceeded to the adjacent farmstead and obtained the key of the box. On openns it he discovered inside—not a miniature ghost but a titmouse—or as the people of Talyllychan call it, a penglasdw!—which had built inside a snug little nest for itself and appeared very much disturbed by its inquisitive visitor.

A carol by the great Eben Fardd is printed—from a manuscript in the poet's own handwriting, now in the possession of Mr. Charles Walte—in this week's issue of the Aberystwyth Observer. It may be said of Eben Fardd, as of every other true poet, that age enhances the value of his productions; and doubtless this hitherto unpublished carol will be eagerly scanned by Welsh literati. It is a smooth and spirited composition and offers a splendid opportunity to some of our musical composers. The last verse

Bellach gogoniant, Bellach gogoniant Yn y goruchuf i Dduw; Ar y ddaear yn doilyth, Bydded rhad Dangnefedd byth Ewyllys dda i holl ddynol ryw. The manuscript is dated Ciynnog, 1845, and is entitled "Y Carol Angylaidd" ("The Angelie Carol,")

While the Welsh Baptists and the Welsh Congregationalists have each their respec-tive "Unions," and the Welsh Calvinistic Methodists have their "General Assembly" to represent them as a concrete whole, the Welsh Wesleyans are still divided into two artificial sections, north and south, and have no constituted body to speak or to act in the name of the Welsh churches as a whole. It is to remedy this defect and remove the resultant disad-vantages that the Rev. Hugh Price Hughes and others are agitating in the conference for the formation of a pro-vincial synod for the whole of Wales. The South Wales "district" at their Cardiff meetings this week adopted without a dissentient voice a resolution in favor of that cause, and, though there has been manifested a little opposition in North Wales among some of the ministers, it is now clear that when the next conferes is held the opinion of Wales will go solid-ly in favor of the new properal. It is felt by the promoters that "such an assembly as is now suggested would create among our Welsh churches a sense of unity which cannot exist while Welsh Methodism is split into two prequal unrelated fragments. It would give new life, new hope, new opportunity to our people in Wales at a time when all other churches, including even the Church of Rome, realize that a variety of circumstances have combined to make this the hour when a wise, well directed and national appeal to the Weish race is more likely than at any previous period in modern history to evoke a hearty and national response."

Mr. T. Glyndwr Richards, the wellknown male voice party conductor, ex-pressed his belief to one of our representatives that the choral contests at this year's Newport National Eisteddfod would be memorable ones. The old Pontycymmer man's prophesy is evidently going to be verified, for we hear that the preparations for this year's festival are unexampled. There will be some musical treats in store for those who visit Cas newydd in August,

There are three vacancies on the Weisl Central Board. The appointment as ex-aminers of Prefessor Powel (Cardiff), Pro-fessor Spencer (Bangor), and Mr. D. B. Jones, B. Sc., involves on the part of those gentlemen the vacation of their

two professors will be appointed by the two colleges they respectively represent, but Mr. D. E. Jones, B. Sc., is a co-opta-tive member, and his successor will be appointed by the board itself.

In their march through their territorial distict the First Battalion South Wales Borderers, who are exchanging quarters from Aldershot to Pembrokee Dock in the early part of July, will leave the train at Seven Tunnel. At Newport they will stay one night, camping probably on the Marshes. Thence the route will be via Pontypool, Brynmawr, and Llangundeir to Brecon.

The discussion at Lianelly on the ques-tion of adopting the Free Library Act in the town was in some respects amusing to a degree. One speaker replying to the argument that Liancily was in the van of South Wales towns even in the absence of a Free Library, staled that if the town had been blessed with a Free Libra-ry Llanelly would have been miles in front of the van!

By those of our readers who have been By those of our readers who have been born and bred amid the ceaseless din and commotion of railway traffic the following will be hardly appreciated. The 12th of May was a red letter day in the history of Talybont. The long expected Victoria locomotive arrived, and the occasion was one of unexampled excitement and curiosity. The whole town turned out to welcome the new arrival, and the station was come the new arrival, and the station was profusely decorated with bunting.

The Weish Calvinistic Methodist church at Falmouth road, London, is reported to have invited the Rev. Samuel E. Prydderch, of Stephney, to accept its pastorate, Mr. Prydderch is a son of the late celebrated W. Prydderch, of Ferryslie, and brother of the Rev. W. E. Pydderch, of Trinity chapel, Swansea, successor of the late Dr. Saunders,

There is a growing desire in some Loudon Welsh quarters, and especially among those people employed in large business establishments, to establish Sunday moraing services in the open air. Regent's Park and Battersea Park as places of congregation are favored, and there is some likelihood that the proposal may assume a practical shape.

Jonah Evans, brother of the late Rev for Herber Evans, Bangor, and of the Rev. W. Justin Evans, has been elected chairman of the Pontsell Urban district council which office carries with it a seat on the magisterial bench. "Herber," it will be remembered, was appointed a magistrate a year or two before his

The new chairman of the Welsh Congregational unto must be selected from among the residents of North Wales, and a suggestion is made that on this occasion a layman should be elected. A South Wales layman, in the person of Alderman J. Williams, J. P. of Gwaelodygarth, filled the chair of the union seven years

Dr. Liewellyn Bevan, of Melbourne, has premised to occupy the pulpit of Park Congregational chruch, Llanelly, on a Sunday in August, Dr. Bevan is an old Llanelly boy, his father having been a deacon at Park church for many years.

M O. Jones so well known in musical and scholastic circles in South Wales, has for the past thirty-five years labored at Treherbert, where, in his capacity as schoolmaster, he has trained quite a little army of boys and girls for the battle of life,



en. It is little won der that nine women with some derangement or irregularity in the action of the organs distinctly feminine. Neglect and wrong living will show them-selves first in the most delicate organs of the whole body. With such weakness and the whole body. With such weakness and sickness so prevalent, it is to be expected that the bearing of children would be fraught with dread and danger. It should not be so, of course. Nature never meant it to be so. The performance of the highest function of which a woman is capable should not be accompanied by pain. If perfectly natural living were the rule, it would not be so. As lives are lived, something else must be done. A remedy must be found. For over thirty years, Dr. Pierce has been chief consulting physician to the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, of Buffalo, N. Y. During that time he has Buffalo, N. Y. During that time he has treated thousands of women. He has found in his "Favorite Prescription" a never-failing specific for female complaints. It strengthens the whole body and when taken during gestation, shortens the period of labor and makes childbirth well-nigh



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